



June 2001



Dr. Lyle Schwartz

Dr. Schwartz named new AFOSR director

by Laura Coens, AFOSR Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, VA. — The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) recently announced that the Air Force has selected Dr. Lyle H. Schwartz as the new director of AFRL's Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR). This appointment became effective Feb. 25, 2001. Schwartz, a member of the Senior Executive Service since 1984, has served as director of AFOSR's Aerospace and Materials Sciences directorate since 1999.

"Dr. Schwartz was chosen from some tough competition. His unique talents made him stand out from his competitors and his strong desire to help AFOSR excel will make him a great director," said Brig. Gen. Paul Nielsen, AFRL commander.

The AFOSR director is responsible for the management of the entire basic research investment for the U.S. Air Force. The director leads a staff of over 150 scientists, engineers, and administrative personnel located in Arlington, Va. and the two foreign technology offices in London and Tokyo. The AFOSR director is charged with maintaining the technological superiority of the U.S. Air Force. Each year, AFOSR selects, sponsors, and manages research relevant to Air Force needs.

Schwartz brings many years of scientific leadership experience and an extensive list of accomplishments to his new position. He earned his bachelor's degree in science engineering in 1959 and doctor of philosophy in materials science degree in 1964 from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. From 1964 to 1984, he was a professor of materials science and engineering at Northwestern University. In addition to teaching, from 1979 until 1984, he was the director of the Materials Research Center at Northwestern University. From 1984 to 1997, he served as director of the Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md. In 1998, he became president of the Associated Universities Inc., in Washington, D.C.

Schwartz is known for his contributions in the areas of phase transitions in iron alloys, applications of Mossbauer Spectroscopy, x-ray and neutron diffraction, characterization of catalysts; and policy issues concerning materials science and engineering. He has written more than 85 technical papers and is co-author of two textbooks in the field of materials science and engineering. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

AFOSR invests in long-term, broad-based research into aerospace related science and engineering. To accomplish this mission, AFOSR has formed a strong, productive alliance with other government agencies, U.S. industry and the academic community. Nearly 80 percent of the research is conducted in academia and industry and the remaining 20 percent is conducted within AFRL. AFOSR's investment in basic research programs is distributed to about 300 academic institutions, 145 industry contracts and more than 150 internal AFRL research efforts. @